

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to the first Official Action. With this Amendment, claims 9-18 have been canceled and new claims 31-36 have been added. No excess claim fees are required since Applicant has cancelled at least as many independent and dependent claims as have been added. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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BDK/djb